

REMARKS

In response to the final Office Action dated March 18, 2009 (the "Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. All of the issues raised in the Office Action have been carefully considered and are addressed herein. The application as presented is believed to be in allowable condition.

Applicant notes with appreciation that claims 2-5, 7, and 9 are objected to as depending from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, to accept subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner and thereby place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant has amended the claims as follows:

- Dependent claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 1, as pending prior to entry of this paper;
- Rejected independent claims 1 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice;
- Dependent claims 2-9 and 11-12 have been amended to conform to current U.S. patent practice, including removal of reference numerals and multiple dependencies, as well as to more particularly define Applicants' contribution to the art, without addressing any issues of patentability. In view of these amendments, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of rejection of claims 6, 8, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's representative at the telephone number indicated below to discuss any outstanding issues relating to the allowability of the application. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 141270.

Dated: June 10, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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